

KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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News Release

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"Open Waters" Schedule for February

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) has announced "open waters" trolling schedule for permitted vessels only in the month of February:

Saturday and Sunday, February 7-8 Saturday and Sunday, February 21-22.

Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR 12-261) require that all vessels must register annually with the KIRC <u>before</u> entering the Reserve to troll during designated open waters trolling dates. A \$25.00 permitting fee will be applied to the required registration process.

Access to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve waters is severely restricted due to the continued presence of unexploded ordnance, as well as for the protection of marine resources within the Reserve. However, during two scheduled weekends each month, limited trolling is allowed in Reserve waters deeper than 30 fathoms. "Reserve waters" are defined as within two nautical miles of Kaho'olawe island. All other fishing, ocean recreation, commercial and/or any other activities are strictly prohibited

To register with the KIRC, or for more information, contact Dean Tokishi at 808-243-5889, dtokishi@kirc.hawaii.gov, or visit http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov to download a registration packet. Registration packets are also available at the Division of Boating and Recreation.

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¹ 1 Failure to register with the KIRC may result in criminal and civil penalties. Criminal penalties may result in a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment up to 30 days; administrative penalties may result in a fine of up to \$10,000 for a first violation; \$15,000 for a second violation within five years; and, as much as \$25,000 for a third or subsequent violation within five years of the last violation [HRS §6K-8, 8.5].